MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

October 2017 – The next regular MNS meeting will be held on October 19, 2017, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. On that date we will have our annual raffle drawing which features a gold coin.

President:	Justin Perrault	**Vice President:**	Jim Heinrich
Secretary:	John Bleidorn	**Treasurer:**	Lee Hartz
Sgt. at Arms:	Jeff Gaffke	**Trustee '15-'17:**	Tom Dallmann
Trustee '17-'19:	Dave Hunsicker	**Trustee '16-'18:**	Gary Bieringer
Librarian:	Joe Paonessa	**Newsletter editor:**	Leon Saryan

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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). Our annual coin show is held in October.

October Coin of the Month: It seems that our bidders like slabbed silver coins, so this month we offer a 1967 40% silver unc Kennedy Half Dollar, certified by PCGS to grade MS-64. Here is another beautiful certified silver coin for your collection, now 50 years old! Starting bid only $8.00.

October 2017 MNS President's Message

Another MNS coin show has come and gone in the annals of our Club's history. It was a raging success, with the parking lot full and the bourse floor crowded right up until the very end. From set-up to tear-down and everything in between, an immense amount of thanks goes out to all of the volunteers that assisted in making the show possible, and to all of the dealers that continue to reserve tables each year and ensure its sell-out status. There were a total of six excellent exhibits, each one pertaining to a different and very interesting topic. I hope that many members of the public were able to view these and be educated on a different facet of our hobby.

Next up is our club banquet at Alioto's on October 21st. This will be just a few days after our regular monthly meeting for October. Please plan to attend the banquet because this is always a great opportunity to simply socialize and recap the progress and success of our club throughout the past year. Additionally, this year we will be hosting our very own Tom Casper as the keynote speaker. His presentation will pertain to historical Milwaukee postcards. Come ready to see some views of Milwaukee that you likely have never witnessed before.

It makes me very happy to report that the dilemma of our case storage issue has reached a solution. Members Norm and Adele Vogel have graciously come forward to take care of this matter for us. Thank you so much!!!

We received a new membership application at the coin show from Daniel Leichtnam. He is a collector from the West Bend area. We also received an application at the last meeting from young numismatist (YN) Malik Boyd. These applications will be presented at the next meeting, and will be put up for a vote by the general membership.

Officer elections are on the horizon again for the 2018 membership year. We have a high level of turn over this year; everything from Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms, and possibly Secretary will be open. Please see any member of the election committee to notify them of your interest to step up and help your club. We will do everything it takes to ensure that you have the resources and support necessary to perform successfully in the position.

Please get your auction items for the November meeting e-mailed to Leon S. by the end of October so that they can be published in the next newsletter. We will be drawing winners of the raffle ticket sales at the next meeting. For everyone who purchased tickets, thank you very much for supporting the Club, and come out to the October meeting to see if you are a big winner!

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

Last year for MNS Coin Show wooden nickels??

MN$ 2017

Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19:	Officer Inductions
Feb 16:	Open
March 16:	Rev. Paul Bulgerin: Numismatic Archaeology
April 20:	Dave Hunsicker: Milwaukee Transportation Collectables
April 27:	CSNS Bus Trip (8 AM-5 PM)
May 18:	Spring Auction
June 15:	Expanded Show and Tell
July 20:	Tom Casper: Collecting, Buying, and Selling on E-Bay
Aug 17:	NO MEETING
Aug 19:	Summer Outing at Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear (10 AM) 839 N. 11th Street, Milwaukee
Sept 21:	Open
Oct 19:	Raffle Ticket Prize Drawing
Nov 16:	Autumn Auction; Election Slate
Dec 21:	Holiday Party; Officer Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2017 are $10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

2017 Numismatic Events

October 21	MNS Banquet, Alioto's Drinks at 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM
October 29	Sheboygan Coin Club Show 170 Range Line Rd. Kohler, WI 9:00 AM-3:30 PM
October 29	Madison Coin Show Sheridan Hotel 706 John Nolan Dr. Madison, WI 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
November 4	Kenosha Coin Show Kenosha Union Club 3030 39th Ave. Kenosha, WI 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Dave Herrwig
Feb:	Jim Heinrich
Mar:	John Bleidorn
Apr:	Tom Dallmann
May:	Justin Perrault
Jun:	None
Jul:	Gary Bieringer
Aug:	NO MEETING
Sep:	Don Kaminski
Oct:	Pam Talmadge
Nov:	John Bleidorn
Dec:	Holiday Party

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to $60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes

September 21, 2017

President Justin Perrault called the 982nd meeting of the MNS to order at 7:02pm. There were 22 members and 2 guests in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by: Don K, Chris K, James K, Tom D, Gary B, Jordan H, Steve J, Paul K, Malik B, Adele V, Leon A, Leon S.

Coin of the Month: Bob M won the coin of the month, an MS-64 PCGS slabbed 1966 Kennedy Half with a bid of $16.50. 2 additional items were available-Malik B won a copper state coin set for $8.50 & Chris K won a framed presidential dollar coin holder for $3.50.

Expanded Show & Tell: Justin P-Silver ANA coin, Chris Kantak-Eclipse medals, Leon S-Armenian medals, John B-Lost & found coins, James K-King Leopold coins.

Treasurer's Report: N/A, However Dave H reported the annual audit of the club's books looked good and the club's books & records were in good order.

Correspondence: NOW News.

Show Update: A successor Bourse chairman for next year's show & volunteers during the show are always needed & appreciated.

Newsletter: Newsletter articles are always appreciated. Brief reminiscences of great circulation finds, local experiences, etc. are appreciated additions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by John Bleidorn

The October 1 Coin Show was jammed with active collectors

An Enigmatic Armenian Cotton Token

by L. A. Saryan

A couple of months ago our member Tom Casper gave an interesting presentation on how eBay can be used to locate rare items and enhance a collection. This is especially true if you collect coins from other countries. Some of the neatest items in my collection were obtained this way, and I don't think I would ever have located many of these in any other fashion.

One such item is presented here. It's a small silver token showing a double pan scale and four lower case Armenian letters (ɋ ɯ / ɯ ɯ) on the obverse, and a cotton plant with four Arabic numerals on the reverse. The designs on each face are enclosed by wreaths of laurel leaves and the edge is crenellated. The token is only 14.1 mm in diameter and 0.94 grams. Although tiny, the token is very attractively made and choice AU.

The eBay seller was from Vienna, Austria, with whom I was unfamiliar. The same seller also had a beautiful hand-engraved Armenian gold medal which was out of my reach, but which a friend was able to procure. The medal was unknown to me but I immediately recognized the token. It had been published in the Armenian language by the late Dr. Paul Bedoukian (the leading expert in this field) in 1988, and in 2012 I published an English translation. Neither of us could offer a satisfactory answer as to what this token represents.

I often judge rare Armenian items by the "have I ever seen one before?" test. Except for that publication, I had never seen or had the chance to examine one. Bedoukian wrote that the Armenian monastery in Venice had a single gold and several silver examples in their collection, and that he also owned a silver example. Nothing very similar is known and we are unaware of the existence of other examples.

Numismatists have interpreted the Arabic numerals as a date (1232 Hejira) which is equivalent to 1815 AD. The plant, once thought to be merely a bouquet of flowers, is pretty clearly a cotton plant. The Armenian letters could be the initials of a person or one of the letters might represent the Armenian word for cotton. The use of Arabic numerals suggest the token originated from the Ottoman Empire, possibly the western or southern areas where the climate was conducive to cotton growing. In certain towns, Armenians were very active in cotton cultivation.

One could suppose that this is akin to a "picker" token, representing a measure of cotton weighed on a suspended scale. With only this one type and nothing else similar known to us, however, the exact purpose of this rare token may remain a mystery.

MNS October 1, 2017 Coin Show

By Tom Casper, Show Chairman

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society held its annual coin show on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at Serb Hall. We lucked out with a warm and beautiful day and no Green Bay Packers game to interfere. We worked hard to promote this show which including mailing out postcards, ads on Facebook, Craigslist, numismatic publications, newspapers and posting fliers at coin shows, coin shops and Milwaukee area merchants.

Our setup crew arrived at 6AM. The tables were covered and electrical lines laid. We finished by 7AM and ushered in the long line of booth holders anxious to get in to set up. The 75-table show was a sellout as usual. We had two new dealers in the bourse this year; Bob's Coins & Hobbies at 3050 S. 92 St. and Roger Bohn of Green Bay. All the booth holders were provided with complimentary coffee and doughnuts.

By 9 AM a long line of public lined the hallway and after registering were let in the show. The show was busy for most of the day. At the end of the day 470 collectors visited our show. Business was brisk and dealers reported doing well.

Our exhibit area had seven exhibits by seven exhibitors filling sixteen cases. Six of these exhibits were new this year. The title of the exhibits are as follows: American Banknote Co. Admission Tickets to the 1893 Columbian Exposition; U.S. Philippines Half Centavos (1903-1908); Sower of the Forest Medal; A Medieval Armenian Coin Hoard; Horse Car Tokens; Wisconsin Civil War Brewery Tokens; So-Called Dollars.

The exhibit awards will be presented at our banquet on October 28, 2017. If you worked three hours toward the show and plan on attending the banquet, you will need to fill out a dinner option sheet to select an entree and get it to Jim Heinrich so he will know you are attending.

At 1 PM the Numismatists of Wisconsin (NOW) held its Board meeting at the show. Numerous Governors throughout Wisconsin were in attendance. If you are not a member, please consider joining our state numismatic organization.

A total of 26 MNS members worked toward our show. I would like to especially thank all the show chairmen who worked on the show during the year and the members who helped the day of the show. We couldn't have had such a successful show without your help. Special thanks go to members Norm and Adele Vogel for offering to store our exhibit cases.

The wooden nickels which were given to the public were printed in both red and green. If you didn't get any at the show, we will have a few remaining wooden nickels at our October meeting. The show committee has decided this will be the last year we will be handing out wooden nickels.

. If you didn't turn in your sold raffle tickets at the show, please bring them to the October 19, 2017 MNS meeting when the raffle winners will be drawn.

Please mark your calendar for next year's show date of Sunday, October 7, 2018.

Scenes from the 2017 Show

Member-Dealer Tom Ralston

Member-Dealer Neil Shafer

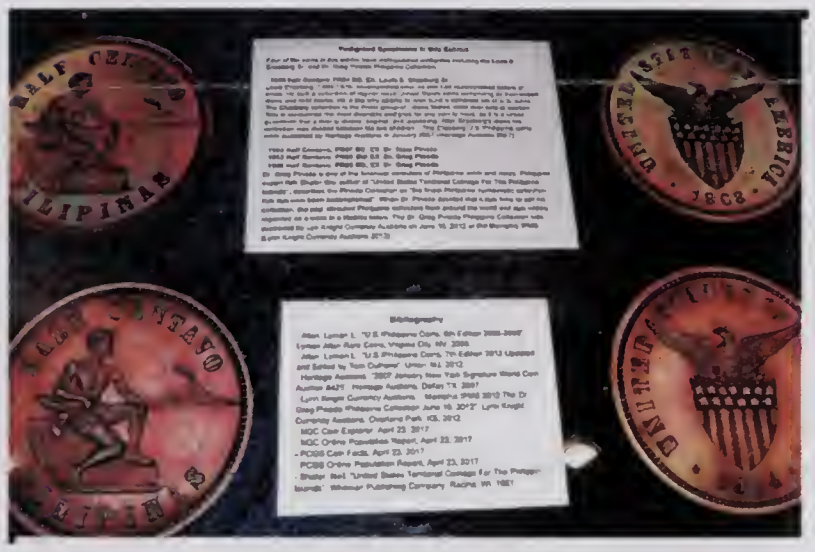
Member-Dealer Bruce Benoit

Member-Dealer Bill Spencer

More Scenes from the MNS 2017 Show

Armenian Hoard exhibit

Squirrel Medal exhibit



Philippine Coin exhibit

Columbian Exposition exhibit

Member-Dealer Dave Hunsicker

NOW Board of Governors Meeting